

Recognitions at the September 2006 State Board of Education Meeting



- ***State Teacher of the Year***

State Board member Jessie Curtis and Superintendent of Education Inez Tenenbaum congratulate Jennifer “Buffy” Murphy (center), a fifth-grade teacher at Irmo Elementary School, Lexington/Richland School District Five, who is now serving as South Carolina’s State Teacher of the Year. Murphy has begun her yearlong residency at the South Carolina Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention and Advancement (CERRA). She is also working with the state Teacher Forum and the Teacher Cadet Program. Recently she was appointed to the Education Oversight Committee.



- ***Honor Roll Teacher***

State Superintendent Inez Tenenbaum and State Board member Terrye Seckinger congratulate Honor Roll Teacher Kathy All Clark (center), who teaches at Howe Hall Arts Infused Magnet School (AIMS) in Berkeley County. Clark is a workshop facilitator and grant writer who has taught for twenty-eight years and is National Board Certified. Honor Roll Teachers are those who are finalists in the state’s annual Teacher of the Year program.



- ***Honor Roll Teacher***

State Superintendent Inez Tenenbaum and State Board member Patsy Pye congratulate Honor Roll Teacher Lucia Dantzler (right) from Dorchester School District Two. She teaches at Rolling Middle School of the Arts. Dantzler is a thirty-three year teaching veteran. She is National Board Certified and is a two-time South Carolina Presidential Science Award recipient.



- ***Honor Roll Teacher***

State Board member Jessie Curtis and State Superintendent Inez Tenenbaum congratulate Honor Roll Teacher Kathy Danko (center), who teaches at Sandhills Elementary School in Lexington School District Four. Danko is a twenty-seven year veteran who views herself as an engineer. She scaffolds the strategies that her students need to move to new levels of thinking and understanding. She is a researcher and a part-time parent who cares about each child.



- ***Honor Roll Teacher***

State Superintendent Inez Tenenbaum congratulates Honor Roll Teacher Michele Y. Taylor-Brown (right), who taught at Rice Creek Elementary School in Richland School District Two last year and currently teaches at Sandlapper Elementary. Taylor-Brown is a workshop presenter and is National Board Certified. She says that the relationship between teacher and student should be one in which the pair works together to make new discoveries.



- ***Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching – National Science Winner***

These are the nation's most prestigious awards for science and mathematics teaching. Awardees serve as role models for their colleagues, inspirations to their communities, and leaders in instructional improvement. State Board member Trip DuBard and State Superintendent Inez Tenenbaum congratulate national science winner Melissa Timmons (center), who teaches physical science and chemistry at Johnsonville High School in Florence School District Five. She has been teaching for fourteen years and is National Board Certified in adolescence and young adulthood science.



- ***Presidential Awards – National Math Winner***

State Board member Dr. Daniel Varat and State Superintendent Inez Tenenbaum congratulate national math winner Judy Snyder (center), who teaches Algebra 2, geometry, and discrete math at Eastside High School in Greenville County. A former district teacher of the year, Snyder has served as vice president for secondary teachers in the South Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics. She served on the state Instructional Materials Review Panel for geometry adoption, has been teaching for twenty-five years, and is National Board Certified.



- ***Presidential Awards – State Science Winner***

State Board member Terry Seckinger and State Superintendent Inez Tenenbaum congratulate state science winner Mary Beth Meggett (second from right) and her husband. Meggett is a third-grade teacher who has taught for ten years. She is National Board Certified and was teacher of the year at her school in 2005. She teaches at Stiles Point Elementary in Charleston. Her principal is Stephen Burger; her superintendent is Dr. Marie Goodloe-Johnson.



- ***Presidential Awards – State Science Winner***

State Board member Charles McKinney and State Superintendent Inez Tenenbaum congratulate state science winner Rebecca Hall (center), a second-grade teacher who has taught for twenty-four years. She is National Board Certified in early childhood and was teacher of the year at her school in 2005 as well as district teacher of the year. Hall teaches at Cherokee Trail Elementary School in Abbeville County. Her principal is Chester King; her superintendent is Dr. Ivan Randolph.



- ***Presidential Awards – State Science Winner***

State Board chair Joe Isaac and State Superintendent Inez Tenenbaum congratulate state science winner Patricia Lee Pierce (center), who teaches at Myrtle Beach Intermediate in Horry County. She is a fifth-grade teacher and has taught for thirty-five years. Pierce has received many awards, including Time-Warner Teacher of the Month and the Golden Apple Award for Teaching Excellence. Her principal is Dottie Brown; her interim superintendent is Bobby Nalley.



- ***Presidential Awards – State Math Winner***

Lakeside Middle principal Martha Hanwell and State Superintendent Inez Tenenbaum congratulate state math winner Christi Fricks (right), who has taught for eight years and currently teaches sixth-grade mathematics at Lakeside Middle School in Anderson School District Five. Fricks received her National Board Certification in 2003 and has been involved in many professional development activities. Her superintendent is Betty Bagley.



- ***Presidential Awards – State Math Winner***

State Board member Dr. Kristi Woodall and State Superintendent Inez Tenenbaum congratulate state math winner Lisa Gadsden (center), who has taught for twenty-five years and currently teaches both third and fourth-grade classes at Kinard Elementary School in York School District Two. Gadsden has been named “Teacher of the Year” by the local newspaper and coordinated the first math fair in her district. Vickie Phelps is her superintendent; Georgia Westmoreland is her principal.



- ***Presidential Awards – State Math Winner***

State Board member Dr. Daniel Varat accepts congratulations from State Superintendent Inez Tenenbaum on behalf of state math winner Jennifer Hunter (not pictured), who has taught for twelve years and currently team-teaches in a kindergarten-first grade, multi-age classroom. Hunter received National Board Certification in 2002 and has published a book and an article related to mathematics instruction. She teaches in Greenville County at Mountain View Elementary School. Her principal is Thomas Hughes; her superintendent is Dr. Phinnize Fisher.